

Governor's Upper Yellowstone River Task Force
Meeting Summary
January 16, 2001
Yellowstone Inn
Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members Present:

John Bailey, Chair
Mike Atwood, Vice-Chair
Roy Aserlind
David Haug
Jerry O'Hair

Brant Oswald
Rod Siring
Bob Wiltshire
Ellen Woodbury

Others Present:

Allan Steinle, Ex-Officio
Joel Tohtz, Ex-Officio
Terri Marceron, Ex-Officio
John Logan, Ex-Officio
Stan Sternberg, Ex-Officio
Laurence Siroky, Ex-Officio
Dean Yashan, Proxy Ex-Officio
Paul Doss, Proxy Ex-Officio
Liz Galli-Noble, Coordinator

Amy Miller, Administrative Secretary
Jeanne-Marie Souvigney
Karl Biastoch
Leanne Roulson
Aileen Riggins
Jen Elliot
Andy Dana
Lionel Dicharry
Stan Todd

II. Prior Meeting Minutes

The December 12, 2000 minutes were approved as written.

III. Distribute 2000 Annual Report

The published 2000 Annual Report was presented to the Task Force by Liz Galli-Noble. Staying within a budgeted amount of \$2000 for printing, Liz had 900 copies of the Annual Report printed (63 pages) for a total of \$1,998.90. Liz thanked the Task Force members for helping her edit the document. John Bailey thanked Liz for a job well done on the report. Liz briefly reviewed the 2000 project budgets on pages 34 to 38 and pointed out changes from last year's budget (for example, new funding sources, budgeted study costs, etc.).

IV. Financial Updates

1. Grant Spending Report:

Amy Miller reported on the following to the Task Force:

<i>EXPENDED GRANTS</i>			
Grant Name	Completed	Amount	Study Component
DNRC Watershed Planning Assistance Grant	6-30-99	2,100.00	Physical Features Inventory
DNRC HB223 Grant	7-30-99	10,000.00	Aerial Photography
DNRC Riparian/Wetlands Educational Grant	6-30-00	960.99	Hydrologic Response to The 1988 Fires
DEQ 319 Grant (1 st)	9-30-00	40,000.00	Coordinator Position

CURRENT GRANTS			
Grant Name	Amount	Spent	Remaining Balance
DEQ Start-Up Grant	49,138.00	25,537.83	23,600.17
DNRC RDGP Grant	299,940.00	170,273.68	129,666.32
DEQ 319 Grant (2 nd)	58,000.00	7,404.66	50,595.34
DNRC HB223 (Riparian Trend Analysis Study)	6,500.00	0	6,500.00
DNRC Watershed Planning Assistance Grant (Upland Study)	10,000.00	6,517.03	3,482.97

**US Army Corps of Engineers
Budget Summary
(As of December 31, 2000)**

Item	Vendor	Amount Spent	Task/Study Funded
Labor & Travel	Corps	59,000	Project Coordination
Color Infrared Photos	Private	10,040	NWI Wetland Mapping
Demo Maps	USFWS	3,457	NWI Wetland Mapping
Corridor Inventory	USFWS	11,511	NWI Wetland Mapping
Digital Orthophotos	US Forest Service	32,000	Topographic Mapping Project
Full Study	MSU—USGS Coop	97,536	Fish Populations Study
Fieldwork	USDA—NRCS	25,700	Physical Features Inventory
Fieldwork	USGS—WRD	6,500	Hydraulic Analysis
Fieldwork	USDA—NRCS	5,000	HGM
		\$256,744	

Budget Explanation:

FY 1999 Congressional Appropriation	\$320,000
FY 1999 Corps Regulatory Division	\$52,000
FY 2001 Congressional Appropriation	\$650,000

As of 12/31/00

Total expenditures	\$256,744
Balance remaining from FY 99	\$115,256
Balance remaining from FY 01	\$650,000
Total project funds remaining	\$765,256

The Corps will update this budget biannually.

2. Funding Updates

Liz Galli-Noble reported that the Task Force will likely receive \$10,000 in grant funding from the Federal Unified Watershed Approach Program. The Bureau of Land Management manages the program and contacted Liz just before Christmas with the good news. She should hear definite word in early February.

John Bailey met with Governor Marc Racicot, Mark Simonich, and Jan Sensibaugh the new DEQ Director in December 2000 to report on the progress of the Task Force. He was unable to meet with Governor Martz during that visit, however. John cautioned that, under a new administration, the Task Force may be asked to spend the Start-Up Grant in the near future.

V. Update on Socio-Economic RFP Process

Liz Galli-Noble provided the update on the Socio-Economic request for proposal (RFP) process. Having only received one proposal from the first RFP in November 2000, the Socio-Economic Subcommittee decided to re-advertise the RFP in late December 2000. Mike Atwood, explained that the Subcommittee needed more than one proposal to make a fair comparison and informed decision. Specific contractual language had been incorporated into the RFP that allowed this type of selection flexibility on the part of the Subcommittee. Liz provided a handout and reviewed the proposed timeline for Socio-Economic study activities (see *Attachment A*).

VI. Outreach and Education Activities Updates

(1) 2001 Workshop

At the December 16, 2000 meeting, John Bailey appointed a Workshop Subcommittee: Bob Wiltshire, Ellen Woodbury, Jen Elliot, Dr. Duncan Patten, and Liz Galli-Noble. Bob Wiltshire reported their progress and reviewed the proposed agenda for the Upper Yellowstone River Workshop. The Subcommittee members feel that the agenda is realistic, both in time allotted and subject matter covered.

Individuals were given specific roles to play for the event. John Bailey will open the event, lead introductions and set the stage. Dr. Duncan Patten will present *How Rivers Work* and function as the moderator. He will introduce the research team leaders and recap presentations for the audience. Liz will present the Task Force project overview and assist Jen with facilitation (keeping the discussion focused on the subject). It was suggested that a free lunch will be provided at the workshop. The Task Force briefly discussed how to pay for this expense (the Montana Watercourse was helping fund the event but could not help purchase food). Several suggestions were made, one of which was asking corporate sponsor to pay for the lunch. However, Task Force members were reminded that in the past they had voted not use private sponsors for Task Force activities.

Dave Haug made a motion to fund lunch through the Start Up Grant up to \$700.00. Bob Wiltshire seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Laurence Siroky inquired if the flood-plain mapping project would be covered at the workshop. He was told that Chuck Dalby will discuss the flood-plain mapping effort during the Geomorphology presentation. It was decided that the following will be done to advertise the workshop:

- Story in the Park Electric Cooperative – Newsletter
- Story in the Park County Weekly
- Posters around the community
- Contact Taylor Brown – Agricultural Report
- Press releases and advertisements in the local newspapers
- Letters of invitation to everyone on the Task Force mailing list and local landowners (specifically landowners who have been contacted through the landowner permission process).

Liz will schedule a meeting with Task Force/TAC members (Jerry O’Hair, Tom Lane, Rod Siring, and Tom Hallin) to discuss how best to reach out to landowners and encourage them to attend.

The Task Force plans to host a second “outdoor” workshop in April 2001, which will show people how the research teams collect field data. John Bailey formed a Subcommittee to work on setting a date and developing an agenda for the next workshop. The Subcommittee members are: Rod Siring, Jerry O’Hair, Andy Dana, Mike Atwood, and Tom Hallin.

(2) Research Presentation to Montana Chapter of the Fish Society

The Task Force research team leaders were asked to give a presentation to the Montana Chapter of the Fish Society in Butte on January 25, 2001.

VII. TAC Update

The next Technical Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2001 in Bozeman. The Corps is unable to attend the February meeting so the TAC will meet again mid to late March.

Dr. Greg Schildwachter regrettably has resigned from the TAC because he has accepted a new position in Idaho. The TAC Appointment Committee (Bob Wiltshire, Brent Oswald, Mike Atwood and Liz in place of Jim) will seek a replacement and visit with TAC members for suggested names.

VIII. Schedule Future Task Force Meetings

Liz Galli-Noble would like Task Force members to call her at 222-3701, if they will be unable to attend scheduled meetings.

Next Task Force meeting is:
Tuesday, February 27, 2001 at the Yellowstone Inn.

IX. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Attachment A. Socio-Economic Request for Proposals Update 1/16/01

November 15, 2000	1 st RFP Announcement
December 15, 2000	Proposals due to Task Force office, 5 pm
Response:	Only received one proposal Subcommittee decides to re-advertise RFP
December 20, 2000	2 nd RFP Announcement
Response:	As of January 15, 2001, we have received five inquiries about the RFP.
January 30, 2001	Socio-Economic Subcommittee meets to discuss strategy to review of proposals, interview questions, interview dates, etc.
February 5, 2001	Proposals due to Task Force office, 5 pm
February 6 to 9 (?), 2001	Subcommittee reviews proposals
February 12 to 23 (?), 2001	Interviews Selection of contractor
February 27, 2001	Task Force meeting, presentation by Socio-Economic Subcommittee
March 1 to April 1(?), 2001	Sign contract
October 31, 2001	Completion of Socio-Economic work due date